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CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Albania

DATE DISTR. **25** Nov 1952

SUBJECT

Security Measures in Durazzo/Attitude
of Population

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PLACE
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1.

In Durazzo the army was in control of security in the port area. When the ship entered the port, two officers and a sergeant boarded the ship and looked at the ship's manifest. A guard remained on duty at the gangplank.

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2.

Yes. No controls were maintained over the movements of seamen. We were required to carry passes, and we could leave the ship and the port area without trouble. Although the port area was restricted and entrance was obtained through a gate, we were not stopped for identification or passes. We also moved around town freely. Seamen were occasionally kept under surveillance by police in civilian clothing, but the surveillance was maintained to apprehend black-marketeers rather than political enemies. Many seamen sold US cigarettes to the people, for which they received high prices, and the police try to apprehend those selling cigarettes.

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3.

For the most part the Albanian people were very friendly toward the Polish seamen. The people are very poor, and poverty is evident everywhere in the city. The main pre-occupation of the people is to make a living. We brought bread, butter and other food from the ship and gave it to the people. However the language barrier prevented any close contact with the populace.

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The population, however, was very hostile toward the Soviets. There are many Soviets in Durazzo and their style of living is in sharp contrast to that of the people. Whiskey and wine is plentiful and cheap on foreign exchange. The most popular entertainment place for the Soviets is the Volza Restaurant.

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